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## EURAXESS LINKS NORTH AMERICA

Dear colleagues!

The month of March has been extremely busy with the preparatory work for our very first event in 2014 which took place at **Columbia University in New York City on March 27<sup>th</sup>**. We have selected the TOP 5 speakers who gave a 15 min presentation on their scientific research bearing in mind that they had to communicate science to an audience of non-experts. The lucky finalists were as follows: (1) Oscar VARELA from Harvard University, (2) Aline M. LEE from University of California - Berkeley, (3) Daphne KLOTSI from University of Michigan, (4) Simone VINCENZI from University of California - Santa Cruz and (5) Jeantine LUNSHOF from Harvard University. All the presentations were recorded by professionals and will be used for promotional purposes. The program included two additional presentations: on the EU's new program for research and innovation Horizon 2020 and EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion initiative funded by the European Commission. This event was a wonderful opportunity to learn about European funded research projects, other funding opportunities in Europe for researchers of all nationalities and to network/share experience with the fellows who have been already granted European fellowships. Pictures and the videos will be coming soon!

This month's feature is dedicated to an interview with the newly appointed European Research Council (ERC) President, **Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon** who kindly answered our questions regarding the nature of the ERC grants and why they are regarded as a label of excellence. We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his time.

On March 12, 2014 the call for proposals for the **Individual Fellowships** withing the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions were opened with the deadline of September 11, 2014.

As usual, many grants and fellowships have been added to this newsletter, highlighting current opportunities for you in Europe.

Enjoy reading!

**EURAXESS Links North America Team**



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EURAXESS Links North America News is a monthly electronic newsletter, edited by EURAXESS Links North America, which provides information of specific interest to European and non-European researchers in the US who are interested in the European research landscape and conducting research in Europe or with European partners.

The information contained in this publication is intended for personal use only. It should not be taken in any way to reflect the views of the European Commission nor of the Delegation of the European Union to the US.

Please email to [northamerica@euraxess.net](mailto:northamerica@euraxess.net) for any comments on this newsletter, contributions you would like to make, if you think any other colleagues would be interested in receiving this newsletter, or if you wish to unsubscribe.

Editor: Viktoria BODNAROVA and Jean-Michel SERS, EURAXESS Links North America, Regional Representatives



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# 1 EU Insight – The Innovation Scoreboard 2014 and the Innovation Convention

The Innovation Scoreboard 2014 released in early March 2014 and the Innovation Convention held back-to-back on March 10 and 11 of March show the great importance and big role of innovation for Europe.

## **The Innovation Scoreboard 2014**

The annual Innovation Union Scoreboard published by the European Commission found that Europe is improving its innovation performance. The differences between the member states are becoming smaller again, although at a modest rate. The impact of the economic crisis is not as severe as expected.

The measurement framework used in the Innovation Union Scoreboard distinguishes between 3 main types of indicators (Enablers, Firm activities and Output) and 8 innovation dimensions, capturing in total 25 different indicators.

The Enablers capture the main drivers of innovation performance external to the firm and cover 3 innovation dimensions: Human resources, Open, excellent and attractive research systems as well as Finance and support. Firm activities capture the innovation efforts at the level of the firm, grouped in 3 innovation dimensions: Firm investments, Linkages & entrepreneurship and Intellectual assets. Outputs cover the effects of firms' innovation activities in 2 innovation dimensions: Innovators and Economic effects.

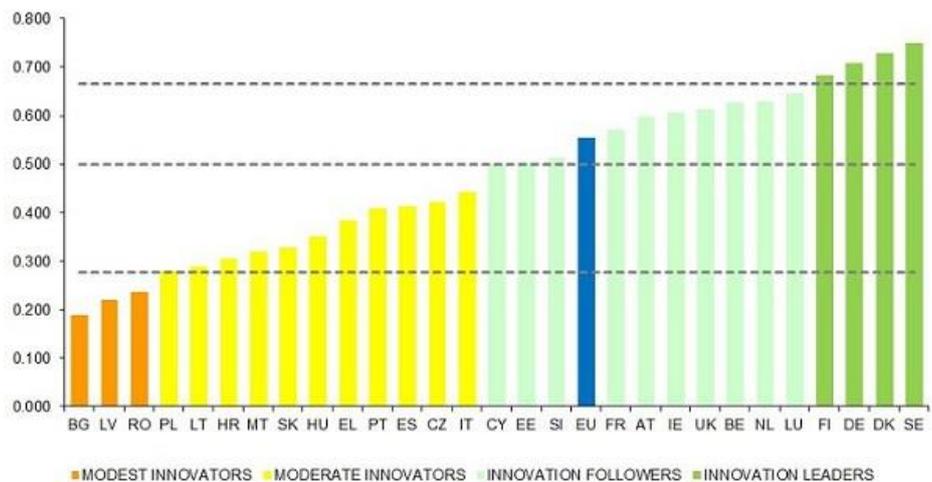


Figure 1: EU Member States' innovation performance [6]

When looking at performance of innovation systems in a global context, South Korea, the US and Japan have a performance lead over the EU. The United States and South Korea outperform the EU both by 17% and Japan by 13%. While the gap between the US and Japan is decreasing, it widens with South Korea.



The top innovation leaders US, Japan and South Korea are particularly dominating the EU in indicators capturing business activity as measured by R&D expenditures in the business sector, Public-private co-publications and PCT patents but also in educational attainment as measured by the Share of population having completed tertiary education.

The EU is still ahead of its other international partners in terms of innovation performance, with China catching up.

#### ***The Innovation Convention 10-11 March 2014***

The second edition of the Innovation Convention took place on 10 and 11 March 2014 in Brussels, with an audience ranging from high-level policy-makers to top researchers, business leaders and the general public. The Innovation Convention is organized by the European Commission's Directorate-General Research and Innovation. The first edition took place in December 2011.

It provides a platform to debate policies that will contribute towards the building of a research and innovation eco-system in Europe.

At the opening of the Innovation Convention, the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, stressed the importance of innovation for the future of Europe:

Different event formats with real live stories being told, real examples of innovation on show provided various starting points for fruitful discussions between the actors at the conference.

The Capital of Innovation Award and the Women Innovators Prize were two of the prizes awarded at the Convention illustrating two of the barriers to address in Europe, the need for sustainable cities and the need for gender balance, respectively.

#### ***Women Innovators prize 2014***

The competition celebrates women who have combined their scientific excellence with a head for business to set up innovative enterprises. It is open for women who have benefited from EU research and innovation programmes.

Although the proportion of female researchers in Europe is increasing, the under-representation of women in scientific disciplines and careers still persists.

Women represent only 33% of European researchers, 30% of full professors and 15.5% of heads of institutions in the HE sector. Similar, on average, women make up 30% of the entrepreneurs in the EU, but often face greater difficulties than men in starting up businesses and in accessing finance and training.

First prize winner Saskia Biskup is co-founder of the CeGaT GmbH for the development of biomarkers. For more information on second and third prize winners Laura van 't Veer and Ana Maiques please visit [this website](#).



### ***Barcelona is “iCapital” of Europe***

With the Capital of Innovation Award, the Commission is recognizing those cities, which are making major efforts to promote innovation and improving the quality of their citizens' lives.

Barcelona was awarded the “iCapital” of Europe. It was chosen by a panel of independent experts in a close competition with Grenoble (France) and Groningen (The Netherlands). The €500,000 iCapital prize will be used to scale up and expand Barcelona's efforts on innovation.

The new technologies introduced in Barcelona to foster economic growth and the welfare of its citizens as part of the “Barcelona as a people city” project of 2011 include:

- open data initiatives
- sustainable city growth initiatives on smart lighting, mobility and residual energy
- social innovation
- promotion of alliances between research centres, universities, private and public partners within the scope of the project
- providing better ‘smart services’ in a flexible, continuous and agile way through ICT

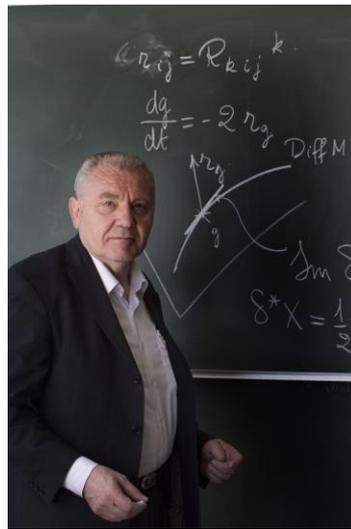
#### Sources:

- [1] [Innovation Union Scoreboard](#)
- [2] [Speech by President Barroso at the Second Innovation Convention](#)
- [3] [Woman innovators prize](#)
- [4] [Barcelona is “iCapital” of Europe](#)
- [5] [Innovation Convention Programme](#)
- [6] [Press Programme Innovation Convention](#)



## 2 Feature – Interview with the new European Research Council (ERC) President, Prof. Jean-Pierre Bourguignon

Photo : © Jean-François DARS



**1. There are misperceptions in North America concerning European funding sources, such as the complexity of the submission and review processes, restrictions on spending, etc. Can you tell us briefly, how does the ERC work?**

There are misperceptions everywhere and not only in North America. Researchers based in Europe have the same worries. The reason is that support for science was not fully addressed until the Lisbon Treaty entered into force in 2009. It is only then that the realisation of the European Research Area (ERA) was introduced as the overarching objective of EU research

policy.

In the same vein, the concerns of the scientific community were heard and the ERC was set up in 2007 with the aim of supporting fundamental research, enhancing bottom-up research with limited bureaucracy. These features have been integral to the ERC grant schemes from the very beginning and appreciated by researchers from all over the world. The ERC supports individual researchers working in frontier research through a pan-European competition and peer-review system. There are no predetermined topics; the scientists are free to define their direction of research.

Quality is the sole criterion when it comes to evaluating the proposals and, with the very high level of selectivity, only excellent projects can be supported. This is assessed at two levels: (1) The research project, which should be of a ground-breaking nature; its potential impact and scientific approach/methodology are both evaluated; (2) The researcher, including his or her intellectual capacity, creativity and commitment.

Referees and panels evaluate each application, and then rank the proposals according to what they have observed. There are 25 panels distributed across 3 scientific domains (10 in Physical Sciences and Engineering, 9 in Life Sciences and 6 in Social Sciences and Humanities). The exceptional feature of the ERC evaluation is the full autonomy of these panels to reach their decisions. There are a significant number of panel members who come from outside Europe: Panel members and chairs are based in 49 countries and remote referees in 87.



**2. What are the success factors for being awarded a grant by the ERC? Where can researchers learn about ERC success stories, especially from US/Canadian applicants?**

As stated before, there are no pre-defined priorities. Researchers are free to choose any research field. Nevertheless, the applicants have to take extreme care to ensure that their proposal fits into a high risk/high gain approach. They should not simply continue what they have already been doing, but explore new ground and propose a really ambitious project with realistic outcomes.

As competition in the ERC calls remains fierce, with a 12% average success rate, researchers are encouraged to submit their proposal only if they feel ready to take up the challenge.

Scientists can consult the ERC [website](#) to learn about the type of ERC grants, find ERC funded projects in their field and read about a selection of [ERC stories](#). They can also check when the calls open so that they can submit proposals. There is also a dedicated page for non-European researchers: [erc.europa.eu/non-european-researchers](http://erc.europa.eu/non-european-researchers).

**3. It is known that researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for ERC grants provided the research they undertake will be carried out in Europe. Is this rule flexible?**

Yes, ERC calls are open to researchers of any nationality, age or current place of work in the world provided that they are prepared to spend at least 50% of their working time in a European country (EU Member State or Associated Country). The applicants should also bear in mind that the ERC grants are portable within Europe, which means that researchers are able to change host institution whilst keeping their grant. This ensures maximum flexibility for the grantees.

Rules vary a little if you go for a Starting, Consolidator or Advanced grant: Starting or Consolidator grantees need to spend a minimum of 50% of their research time on the ERC project, whereas PIs funded through an ERC Advanced Grant have to spend a minimum of 30% of their research time on the ERC project.

**4. Are there different needs in various scientific domains in Europe, i.e. Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Engineering, for which ERC applications from researchers are particularly expected?**

As said earlier, ERC grants are completely “bottom-up”, offering researchers independence, recognition and visibility. They can work freely on a research topic of their own choice. They can gain financial autonomy for up to five years and the freedom to negotiate the best working conditions with their host institutions because ERC grants have become a benchmark for excellence.

**Facts and figures about the ERC (2007-2013)**

- More than 4,300 selected proposals; over \$10 billion awarded
- 64 nationalities represented among the ERC grantees
- 500 different host institutions in 29 countries host 50% of the projects
- But “Excellence attracts excellence”: the other 50% of the ERC grantees in 50 institutions
- Highly competitive: average success rate 12%

**Facts and figures about ERC applicants and grantees of American nationality (2007 – 2013)**

- Over 460 proposals received from researchers with US nationality (\*)
- Almost 140 proposals selected and \$347 million awarded (= EUR 257 million)
- US nationals are by far the most numerous of all non-ERA grantees
- 100 ERC grantees in Europe were resident in the US at the time of application (3/4 are Europeans)

The ERC will be present at the [American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting \(AACR\)](#) held in San Diego in April 5-9, 2014 and at the [Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting](#) in Tampa in April 8-12, 2014.

[ERC Events](#)[Organisation and Working Groups](#)

(\*) All Starting, Consolidator and Advanced grants calls (Proof-of-Concept and Synergy not included)



## 3 News & Developments

### 3.1 EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion Roadshow sets off on a tour of 29 cities in 22 countries

A specially adapted EURAXESS bus will travel to 29 European cities in 22 countries visiting university campuses where awareness-raising events will be organised in cooperation with local EURAXESS Service Centres for students and junior researchers. At each stop, young people will be able to learn about the various EURAXESS services, get help with their CVs, including photos, and/or hear testimonies from researchers who have already used the service. Follow the EURAXESS BUS ROADSHOW on FB and Twitter!

[More information](#)

### 3.2 Innovation Convention, 10-11 March: Watch the videos!

*"It's about bringing researchers & innovators together, bringing industry and academia together, and also giving an opportunity to those who have benefitted from Framework Programme funding to come and show what they've developed and what's now being commercialised".* Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU Commissioner for research, innovation and science.

Watch the video: [Day 1](#) & [Day 2](#).

### 3.3 First “ERA Chairs” to boost research excellence in 11 regions

Eleven universities and technical institutes in Europe are to receive up to €2.4 million each in EU funding to boost their research capacity through the appointment of the first ever "ERA Chairs", Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, announced.

The initiative wants to bridge Europe's innovation divide by attracting top academics to organizations to help them compete with centres of excellence elsewhere in the European Research Area (ERA).

[More information](#)

### 3.4 Promoting Research Excellence - New Approaches to Funding, OECD Report

This [report](#) presents new evidence on how governments steer and fund public research in higher education and public research institutions through research excellence initiatives (REIs).

### 3.5 EUROSTAT Data on Women Graduates

In 2012, 40% of young women had completed tertiary education compared with 32% of men. The fields of study chosen within tertiary education vary greatly between women and men. In the EU28 in 2011, 79.1% of tertiary education graduates in education & training and 76.0% of graduates in health & welfare



were women. On the other hand, only 26.6% of graduates in engineering and 40.8% in science & mathematics were female. The share of female graduates in the different fields varied significantly between Member States, ranging from 74.4% in Denmark to 95.1% in Romania for education & training, from 59.7% in Cyprus to 93.7% in Latvia for health & welfare, from 25.2% in the Netherlands to 60.7% in Romania for science & mathematics and from 16.9% in Ireland to 50.4% in Cyprus for engineering.

[More information](#)

### 3.6 Feasibility study for the development of a certification mechanism for genuinely good HR management in the public research sector in Europe

As part of the European Research Area (ERA) agenda, the European Commission is committed to increasing the attractiveness of research careers in Europe, and to improving employment and working conditions for researchers. It has therefore developed a number of policy initiatives over the past decade that have sought to encourage and support voluntary actions within the Member States in order to make progress in this area.

[More information](#)

## 4 Grants & Fellowships

### 4.1 Europe

#### 4.1.1 Marie Skłodowska-Curie research fellowships



Calls	Publication date	Deadline
<a href="#">INNOVATIVE TRAINING NETWORKS (ITN)</a>	2013-12-11	2014-04-09
<a href="#">RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STAFF EXCHANGE (RISE)</a>	2013-12-11	2014-04-24
<a href="#">Individual Fellowships (IF)</a>	2014-03-12	2014-09-11

**ITN** supports competitively selected joint research training and/or doctoral programmes, implemented by partnerships of universities, research institutions, research infrastructures, businesses, SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond.

**RISE** involves organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors (in particular SMEs), based in Europe (EU Member States and Associated Countries) and outside Europe (third countries). Support is provided for the development of partnerships in the form of joint research and innovation



activities between the participants. This is aimed at knowledge sharing via international as well as inter-sectoral mobility, based on two-way secondments of research and innovation staff (exchanges) with an in-built return mechanism.

The **Individual Fellowships** support the international mobility of researchers within and beyond Europe.

These fellowships are open to researchers of all nationality and in all areas, who, at the time of the relevant deadline for submission of proposals, are in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

#### 4.1.2 Fulbright-Schuman Program

The Fulbright-Schuman Program, administered by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States and Belgium, is jointly financed by the U.S. State Department and the Directorate-General for Education and Culture of the European Commission. The program funds graduate and post-graduate study, research, and lecture proposals in the field of US-EU relations, EU policy, or EU institutions for interested American and EU citizens.

[More information](#)

#### 4.1.3 European Research Council Grants



Researchers from anywhere in the world can apply for a European Research Council (ERC) grant to go to Europe and conduct research (for at least 50% of their working time). Currently over 300 ERC grantees out of nearly 4,000 are non-Europeans. Research teams set up by ERC grantees are highly international – an estimated 18% of team members are non-Europeans.

Open call:

- [ERC Consolidator Grant](#) | ERC-2014-CoG

**Deadline Date: 20 May 2014**

#### 4.1.4 Jean Monnet Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers one or two year fellowships to post-docs in an early stage of their academic career. Priority will be given to proposals that fit well with one or more of the Centre's core research themes: European Institutions, Governance and Democracy, Migration, Economic and Monetary Policy, Competition Policy and Market Regulation, Energy Policy and Climate Policy, Global Governance & International and Transnational Relations of the EU.

**Deadline Date: 31 October 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.1.5 EMBO: Fellowships

Young scientists actively seek EMBO Long-Term Fellowships for postdoctoral research to fund and support their internationally mobile careers. Hundreds of



scientists also benefit each year from EMBO Short-Term Fellowships, returning to their home laboratories with new skills as well as contacts for future collaborations.

[Short-Term Fellowships](#) – applications accepted throughout the year

[Long-Term Fellowships](#) – next deadline: **15 August 2014**

[ERS-EMBO Fellowships](#) – next deadline: **1 April 2014** for short term

#### 4.1.6 National EURAXESS portals

The latest information on open calls for national grants and fellowships in the 40 member countries of the EURAXESS network can be accessed on the respective national EURAXESS portal.

[Austria](#), [Belgium](#), [Bosnia-Herzegovina](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Cyprus](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Denmark](#), [Estonia](#), Faroe Islands, [Finland](#), [France](#), [FYRoMacedonia](#), [Germany](#), [Greece](#), [Hungary](#), [Iceland](#), [Ireland](#), [Israel](#), [Italy](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Luxembourg](#), [Malta](#), Moldova, [Montenegro](#), [Netherlands](#), [Norway](#), [Poland](#), [Portugal](#), [Romania](#), [Serbia](#), [Slovakia](#), [Slovenia](#), [Spain](#), [Sweden](#), [Switzerland](#), [Turkey](#), [UK](#).

Besides providing information on funding opportunities for incoming international and European researchers, staff at the EURAXESS Service Centres offer individual assistance on all aspects of researcher mobility.

## 4.2 EU Member States and Associated Countries

### 4.2.1 Austria: Information from the Office of Science & Technology in Washington D.C.

"Building bridges of knowledge and expertise between Austria and North America" - this is the mission of the Office of Science & Technology ([OST](#)) at the Embassy of Austria in Washington, DC. The OST is the strategic interface in the sciences, research, and research policy between Austria and North America. OST staff can inform you on most relevant funding opportunities in Austria.

### 4.2.2 Austria: Lise Meitner Program for Scientists from Abroad

Target group: Highly qualified scientists of any discipline who could contribute to the scientific development of an Austrian research institution by working at it. Requirements: completed doctoral studies, international scientific publications, No age limit, invitation from an Austrian research institution.

No deadline – call constantly open.

[More information](#)

### 4.2.3 Austria: 2014-15 Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Fellows in Central European Studies

The Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Fellowships in Central European Studies enable each year two outstanding scholars to conduct research on



important issues related to Central Europe at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C. The third pair of Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Fellows will be appointed for a nine (9) month period from either September 2014 to May 2015 or October 2014-June 2015. **Deadline: April 15**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.4 Austria - WWTF-funded positions in the Life Sciences, hosted by the Max F. Perutz Laboratories

The WWTF Austria has launched a call for applications in the Life Sciences.

The „Vienna Research Groups for Young Investigators“ call by the City of Vienna and the WWTF will fund promising young scientists starting their first independent research group in Vienna. Two to three positions with up to 1,6 Mio. € funding per group are available, for 6-8 years, with the possibility during this time of conversion to a tenure track position. The deadline is the **30th April 2014**.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.5 Austria: IST FELLOW\*: Call for Postdoctoral Fellows

Are you a talented, dynamic, and motivated scientist looking for an opportunity to conduct research in the fields of BIOLOGY, COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS, or NEUROSCIENCE at a young, thriving institution that fosters scientific excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration?

Apply to the ISTFellow program. Deadlines March 15 and **September 15**.

[More information](#)

\* IST FELLOW is partially funded by the European Union

#### 4.2.6 Belgium: Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) International Mobility

The FWO encourages mobility among researchers and international contacts between research groups. For this purpose, FWO offers different possibilities to researchers to go abroad and to build international networks.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.7 Belgium: Postdoc fellowships to non-EU researchers

The stimulation of international mobility and the attraction of researchers from abroad is one of the priorities of the European Research Area.

In this context and intending to stimulate the S&T cooperation, the Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO) does implement a fellowship scheme for highly qualified non EU researchers (i.e. postdoctoral level or equivalent experience), granting them an opportunity to work during 6 to 18 months in a Belgian research team.

[More information](#)



#### 4.2.8 Denmark: PhD positions available

Danish PhD scholarships are fully funded, i.e. you receive a salary and there is no tuition fee. Some PhD programmes are developed as partnerships between universities and private companies.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.9 Estonia: Scholarships

The Estonian Government offers a number of scholarships intended for university students, researchers or lecturers for studying and doing research at Estonian public universities and institutions. Mostly scholarships are for master's degree and doctoral degree, but some bachelor degree scholarships are also possible.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.10 Finland: CIMO Fellowships

The CIMO Fellowships programme is open to young Doctoral level students and researchers from all countries and from all academic fields. Master's level studies or post-doctoral studies/research are not supported in the programme.

There are no annual application deadlines in the CIMO Fellowship programme. Applications may be considered at all times. However, please note that applications should be submitted at least 5 months before the intended scholarship period. Decisions will be made within approximately 3 months after receipt of application.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.11 France: Overview of research exchange programs

The Office for Science and Technology (OST) located in the French Embassy to the United States (Washington D.C) regularly updates an overview of research exchange programs addressing all categories of researchers in various areas. A specific section of the OST website contains current calls for proposals, career opportunities, and information on French higher education programs.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.12 Italy: Fulbright BEST programme

Fulbright BEST promotes innovative entrepreneurship among the young generations of scientists, offering a formative opportunity in the United States. The selected candidates will receive a scholarship to attend a course in innovative entrepreneurship for the duration of up to one year in an American university and to take part in an internship at a start up with a high growth potential. The deadline for applications is **April 18, 2014**.

[More information](#)



#### 4.2.13 Lithuania: Lithuanian Research Council: Postdoctoral Fellowships

Researchers from Lithuania and abroad who have been awarded a Ph.D. degree within a period of 3 years can apply for Postdoctoral Fellowships. Any higher education institution, research institute, research center or other research establishments and enterprises in Lithuania can act as a Host Institution.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.14 Luxembourg: National Foundation for Research: INTER Mobility Program

The aim of the INTER Mobility Programme is to promote the scientific exchange between research groups of the Luxembourg public research institutions and research groups abroad in order to foster innovative, internationally competitive research and support the exchange of key knowledge and technological know-how. Thus the activities should have a strong impact on the research programme of the Luxembourg research group as well as on the career development of the researcher. The INTER Mobility Programme allows for research stays in both directions (researchers working in Luxembourg to go abroad or for researchers from elsewhere to come to Luxembourg).

Next deadline: **30 June 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.15 Malta: University of Malta: Junior Research Fellowships

Junior Research Fellowships are available as part of the Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellowships. Open to doctoral students and recent Ph.D. recipients who are U.S. citizens.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.16 Norway: Fulbright Norway: The US-Norway Fulbright Grant Program

The U.S.-Norway Fulbright Foundation offers a range of mobility scholarships to students and researchers for stays with Norwegian and American host organizations.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.17 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science (FPS): IMPULS Competition

FPS is accepting applications from researchers interested in pursuing innovative projects with commercial potential within the IMPULS competition. The competition's goal is promotion of applied research and improvement of skills in commercialisation of the results of research and development work.

**Applicants for the IMPULS competition must complete an enterprise, technology transfer or negotiation training course organised by the Foundation for Polish Science as part of the SKILLS project.**



The competition will gather innovative ideas and research conceptions with commercial potential. The finalists (maximum 15 people) will present their projects at an interview with a committee comprising specialists from the science and business communities.

Next deadline: **11 April 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.18 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: KOLUMB – supporting grants

Programme – supporting grants is an additional offer for the KOLUMB programme laureates (till 2009 edition). The aim of the grant is to enable young researchers to take a full advantage of gained knowledge and skills during the further work in Polish research institutions.

**Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.19 Poland: Foundation for Polish Science: IDEAS FOR POLAND

The objective of the program is to encourage young, brilliant researchers from all over the world to choose Poland as the place to carry out their research projects submitted for the ERC competition. The program is designed for people whose previous scientific record demonstrates they are highly independent as researchers and warrants they will conduct world-class quality research.

**Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.20 Slovakia: National Scholarship Program of the Slovak Republic: Teaching/Research/Artistic Stay for University Teachers, Researchers and Artists (1-12 months)

Next deadline: **30 April 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.21 Slovakia: SAIA, n.o.: Scholarships of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic – Teaching/Research Stay for University Teachers and Researchers (3 months)

Next deadline: **31 May 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.22 Spain: First call for UC3M CONEX talent recruitment under COFUND initiative

The objective of CONEX (CONnecting EXcellence to UC3M) is to provide training and opportunities for professional development for postdoctoral researchers of any nationality, who are not residents in Spain, so that they can advance in their professional careers while contributing their knowledge to the



Spanish scientific university system. Accordingly, applicants who respond to this call can carry out their own research and contribute their experience to the UC3M department or research institution of his/her choice. Thusly, the intention is to connect excellence with UC3M through this mobility programme.

The CONEX programme aims to offer a total of 28 of these types of fellowships. In the first call, 16 researchers will be chosen: 6 in the category “Very Experienced Professors” -those having more than 10 years of postdoctoral research experience; and 10 in the category “Experienced Professors”-those having 4-10 years of experience since receiving their doctoral degree.

Questions and doubts: [conex@uc3m.es](mailto:conex@uc3m.es)

Next deadline: **29 May 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.23 Sweden: Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare: Visting Researchers

The purpose of funding visiting researchers is to add qualified knowledge and competence to the Swedish research society within Fortes areas of responsibility. These financial contributions should primarily fund shorter stays (less than six months) for research, consultations, lectures and seminars (also at other institutions than the host institution). Grants for visiting researchers are exclusively for researchers active at non-Swedish research institutions.

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.24 Sweden: Swedish Research Council: International Career Grant

The purpose of the grant is to enable you as a researcher to develop both in your research and as a research leader early on in your career. You will spend at least two-thirds of your grant period in another country. Leadership training is included in the grant. For the university, the grant opens up possibilities for strategic recruitment and the further training of researchers.

Next deadline: **23 April 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.25 Sweden: Swedish Research Council: Tage Erlander Visiting Professorship

The purpose of this professorship is to give an internationally recognized foreign researchers the opportunity to spend one year at a university or higher education institution (HEI) or research institute in Sweden.

Next deadline: **5 May 2014**

[More information](#)



#### 4.2.26 Sweden: Swedish Research Council: Kerstin Hesselgren and Olof Palme Visiting Professorships

The purpose of these visiting professorships is to enrich and develop the work of Swedish University departments in a manner that benefits the department's own activities, and can lead to continued international cooperation.

The Kerstin Hesselgren Chair should be awarded to a foreign prominent internationally-recognized female researcher in the social sciences or humanities.

Next deadline: **5 May 2014**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.27 Switzerland: Swiss National Science Foundation: International Short Visits

The International Short Visits of the SNSF enable researchers working in Switzerland to go abroad or researchers from elsewhere to come to Switzerland. The visits can last between one week and three months and are limited to one person (the visiting fellow) going to one institute (the host institute). Both the visiting fellow and one person from the host institute (the host) are co-applicants of the proposal.

Next deadline: **open**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.28 Turkey: TÜBİTAK: Fellowships for Visiting Scientists and Scientists on Sabbatical Leave

In order to contribute to the improvement of human resources and the research in Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities (\*) at Universities, Research Institutions and Industry in TURKEY, the eminent scientists/researchers are supported to visit to Turkey by giving seminars/conferences/lectures, or doing R&D activities.

Next deadline: **last working day of each month**

[More information](#)

#### 4.2.29 UK: EURAXESS Jobs portal: Individual Fellowship Opportunities

[More information](#)

EURAXESS National [Fellowships&Grants](#)

### 4.3 Databases and Further Information

#### 4.3.1 Austria: Database of scholarships and research grants available

Austria's most comprehensive database for scholarships and research grants in German and English language offers an overview of about 1200 funding opportunities for incoming and outgoing researchers, graduates and students.



[More information](#)

#### 4.3.2 Belgium: a comprehensive webportal

Calls for proposals are published all through the year on the Belgian Federal portal for research and innovation.

[Further information](#)

#### 4.3.3 Cyprus: the Research Promotion Foundation

The Research Promotion Foundation (RPF) promotes the development of scientific and technological research in Cyprus. The RPF has established a list of research stakeholders, some offering funding opportunities.

[More information](#)

#### 4.3.4 Denmark: Funding programmes for research and innovation and Danish Innovation Centre in the USA

The Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education has published an exhaustive [guide](#) to Danish funding programmes. Innovation Centre Denmark, Silicon Valley, provides you with information about Danish research environment and funding opportunities.

[More information](#)

#### 4.3.5 Estonia: Estonia Research portal!

Estonian Research Portal is the public section of the Estonian Research Information System. It gives an overview on various aspects of Estonian R&D including funding opportunities.

[More information](#)

#### 4.3.6 Finland: Key links to Finnish funding agencies and opportunities

Funding for scientific research in Finland comes predominantly from private companies and the government. Other important sources of funding include various funds and foundations. Here are some of the biggest [funding agencies](#).

#### 4.3.7 France: Find your PhD with the new website "PhD in France"

This website presents French PhD offers on one platform and is open to all foreign students.

This site aggregates the offers of the laboratories and universities in France. It helps in making research simple for all foreign and English-speaking students wishing to pursue a PhD in France.

For the majority of the scientific doctorates, the student gets a 3-year employment contract for a gross amount of approximately € 1,700 / month (1300 € net).

[More information](#)



#### 4.3.8 Germany: Funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers

The German Center for Research and Innovation based in New York compiles all existing funding and resources opportunities for graduate and doctoral students, postdocs and faculty and researchers.

[More information](#)

#### 4.3.9 Ireland: Research opportunities

The Irish Research Council (IRC) manages a suite of inter-linked research schemes, funding scholars at various career stages, from postgraduate study to senior research project-based awards. For early stage researchers these include the Gov. of Ireland Postgraduate scholarships and Gov. of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowships, which fund research at pre- and post-doctoral levels, and the Research Project Grants Scheme, which allows researchers and research teams to expand their activities into new research areas by way of stimulus project grants and knowledge transfer initiatives. The IRC manages and monitors all awards funded under these schemes on a bi-annual basis.

[More information](#)

## 5 Jobs

### 5.1 EURAXESS Portal

There are currently over 8,000 research jobs and fellowship programmes (all over Europe but also in other countries such as in USA/Canada and in all disciplines) accessible via the [EURAXESS Jobs](#) database.

Check out the latest jobs offered on the portal or search positions by keyword, research profile, country or field.

[Online Jobs and Fellowships](#) on the EURAXESS Links North America website. Research organisations (public and private) can upload their job vacancies located in Canada and the US. It is free of charge.

### 5.2 Other Research Career Sites

#### 5.2.1 Canada

Career opportunities in Canada: [National Research Council Canada](#) and [careers](#)

#### 5.2.2 Europe

Find A Postdoc: <http://www.findapostdoc.com/>

Find Scholarships in Europe: <http://www.scholarshipportal.eu/>

Find PhDs in Europe: <http://www.phdportal.eu/>



Career.edu: <http://www.career.edu/index.php>

Academic Jobs EU: <http://www.academicjobseu.com>

Euro Science Jobs: <http://www.eurosciencejobs.com/>

The European Job Mobility Portal: <http://ec.europa.eu/eures/home.jsp?lang=en>

Careers with the European Union: [European Personnel Selection Office \(EPSO\)](#)

Careers with the European Union (EPSO), [Non-permanent Posts](#)

EuroBrussels: <http://www.eurobrussels.com/>

## 5.2.3 USA

AAAs support: [Science careers from the Science journal](#)

The Chronicle of Higher Education Careers Service: <http://chronicle.com/jobs/>

NSF guidance of funding opportunities for [Graduate students](#)

NSF guidance of funding opportunities for [Postdoctoral fellows](#)

Funding opportunities at [researchusa.com](http://researchusa.com)



## 6 Events

### 6.1 Europe: Forthcoming events

Event	When	Where	Organized by	Link to the event
Funding student mobility - Scholarships, grants and loans	10 April	Brussels, Belgium	Academic Cooperation Association	<a href="#">Link</a>
Industrial Technologies 2014 conference	9-11 April 2014	Athens, Greece	Greek EU Presidency event	<a href="#">Link</a>
Transport Research Arena (TRA) 2014: Innovate Mobility, Mobilise Innovation	14-17 April 2014	Paris, France	TRA	<a href="#">link</a>
5th INCO Conference	2-4 June 2014	Athens, Greece	DG Research of the European Commission and the Greek General Secretariat for Research and Technology	<a href="#">Link</a>
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions satellite event at ESOF 2014 Conference	19-20 Jun 2014	Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen, Denmark	European Commission	<a href="#">Link</a>
EuroScience Forum 2014 (ESOF)	21-26 June 2014	Copenhagen, Denmark	Euroscience	<a href="#">Link</a>

### 6.2 North America: Forthcoming events

Event	When	Where	Organized by	Link to the event
EURAXESS Share Event: BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS! European-Funded Research and North America	27 March, 2014	Columbia University, NYC, NY	EURAXESS Links North America and U. of Columbia	<a href="#">Link</a>
American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting	April 5-9, 2014	San Diego Convention Center, California	AACR	<a href="#">Link</a>
Association of American Geographers	April 8-12, 2014	Tampa, FL	AAG	<a href="#">Link</a>
Fifth biennial INORMS	April 10, 2014	Washington D.C.	International Network of Research Management Societies	<a href="#">Link</a>
Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) Annual Conference	22-23 April 2014	University of Maryland, College Park	TASSA	<a href="#">Link</a>



Materials Research Society Spring Meeting and Exhibit	April 2014	21-25,	San Francisco, California	MRS	<a href="#">Link</a>
ACFAS Congress 2014	12-16 2014	May	Concordia University, Montréal, CA	ACFAS	<a href="#">Link</a>

## 7 About EURAXESS Links North America

EURAXESS Links North America is a network of thousands of European and non-European researchers, scientists, and scholars throughout North America. This multidisciplinary network includes members at all stages of their careers. It allows them to connect with each other and with Europe, ensuring that they are recognized as an important resource for European research whether they remain in the United States or return to Europe.

For further information about EURAXESS Links North America, please visit: <http://northamerica.euraxess.org>.

To sign up for membership in our network, and in the virtual SINAPSE community of researchers abroad, please go to our website and click on the Join the EURAXESS Links North America community hyperlink on the right-hand side of the [page](#). Membership is free!

Editor: Viktoria BODNAROVA and Jean-Michel SERS, EURAXESS Links North America, Regional Representatives

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